

# SLRA Newsletter

Silver Lake Residents Association

August 1997

## PLANS FOR A PARK AT THE OLD RED CAR SITE CORRALITAS/LAKEVIEW

*by Bill Wilbur*

Plans are in the works for turning the abandoned Red Car site between Corralitas and Fletcher into a passive park administered by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. There have been a number of projects planned for this site over the years. Zone changes were granted and then expired in 1981 and 1987 for higher density residential developments. In 1995 a 40-unit condominium project was proposed, but was defeated after neighborhood and City Council opposition.

A new developer proposed a scaled-down development in January 1997. He proposed 6 lots at the Corralitas end of the site and 4 lots at the Fletcher or Adelbert end. The center section would be dedicated to open space.

Some neighbors were interested in trying to avoid development altogether and proposed to make the site a park. They approached the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy which has been instrumental in protecting open space in the past. The Conservancy expressed an interest and the developer offered to sell the property for \$350,000.

On June 10, 1997 a community meeting was held at Allesandro School. There was overwhelming support for having the land turned into a park. The park would be "passive", meaning that there would be trails and restoration of indigenous plants, but no recreation facilities.

Neighbors have established a non-profit organization to apply for County Prop A funds. County Supervisor Gloria Molina has endorsed the project. Other sources of funding are also being explored, and the Council office is assisting in locating possible City funding.

Whether the dream for a neighborhood park or open space will be turned into reality remains to be seen. The developer continues to reserve the right to pursue his limited development plans, if in fact funding cannot be obtained for a park.

For more information, or if you want to take part in the process of securing funds and planning for the park, contact the SLRA Hotline at 661-6465.

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## SILVER LAKE T'S STILL AVAILABLE AND NOW IN KIDS' SIZES

*by Catherine Moyers*

The very popular SLRA T-shirts, that premiered at last year's Secret Garden Tour, are still available. Now they are also available in kids' sizes for, yes, kids and for the shrunken T-shirt look that has become so popular. The T-shirts feature a delightful 3-color illustration by Silver Lake illustrator Sara Swan as shown at left. As you might be able to tell from the drawing, Sara took the elements of Silver Lake (the reservoir, the steps, the diverse architectural styles and the mountains in the distance) and made a rather Dali-like face with them. The T-shirts are white and the illustration is in three colors; black, aquamarine and rosey red. They are 100% pre-shrunk cotton.

The shirts have been available for many months at the chiropractic office of Dr. Cheryl Revkin, located at 1724 West Silverlake Dr. The Silver Lake Residents Association is planning a neighborhood Block Party for Sunday, September 7, and of course the shirts will be available at that event, too. The Block Party will take place from 3 pm to 7 pm on Kenilworth Ave. between Moreno Dr. and Hawick (See enclosed flyer). In addition, you can always call Catherine Moyers at 663-3543 to place your order.

The T's now come in adult sizes XL, L, and M, and kids' sizes 6-8 and 10-12. The kids shirts sell for \$10 and the adult sizes sell for \$12. They make great gifts for new neighbors, for out of town guests and now for new babies to grow into.

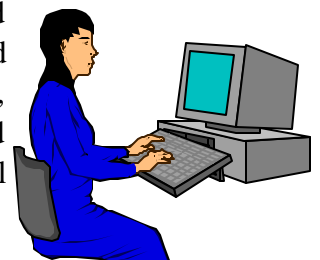


### SMALL ATWATER LIBRARY BRANCH FILLS BIG NICHE

*by Maryann Kuk*

The Atwater Library (3379 Glendale Blvd. at Revere) is a small branch library with a large community impact. If you haven't been to a library lately, treat yourself to a quick stop. You'll notice that there are computers connected to the entire library system. It is now possible to search the on-line catalog for a book, find it in a remote location and have it sent to the Atwater branch. This makes every book in the Los Angeles City Library system available, even though the inventory at Atwater is small. ESL (English as a Second Language) classes have been conducted at the library for several months now and this service is providing an opportunity for young mothers and their children to learn English. Classes are conducted five days a week. Contact Joan Avery at the library for further information.

These and other local programs are supported through generous donations by individuals and corporations, by membership in the Friends of Atwater Library (FOAL), and by regular used book sales. If you have books to donate, just drop them off. If you need help with delivery, call Maryann at (213)665-4145, and she'll make arrangements for you. The sales are held every 3rd Saturday from 10 am -3 pm. If you'd like to join FOAL (just \$5/yr), just call Barbara Lass at (213)661-3283.



## BASIC PLUMBING ZONING VARIANCE OVERTURNED

*by Kathryn Rowley*

In May 1997, a City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator granted a zoning variance to the owners of Basic Plumbing, an adult entertainment business located on the 1900 block of Hyperion Avenue. The variance was granted to allow an adult entertainment business within 500 feet of a residential area and also to exempt the business from providing on-site parking.

Many of the residents on Griffith Park Blvd and Hyperion Ave. are concerned that the nature of an adult entertainment business produces a "spill over" effect into the neighborhood. Patrons leaving the establishment as late as 5:00 am. have been noisy and have not confined their activities solely to the confines of the club.

In July 1997, residents who lived within 500 feet of Basic Plumbing filed an appeal with the Board of Zoning Appeals to overturn the zoning variance. The Board approved their appeal and rejected the variances granted. Within 6 weeks, the owners of Basic Plumbing should receive written notification that they will have to cease operation as an adult entertainment business. If they do not cease operating voluntarily, the City Attorney will have to file a criminal action against them for violation of the adult entertainment ordinance.

## SLRA SILVER LAKE CLEANUP DAY

*by Nancy Smith*

On May 17, a crowd of 70 residents and friends of Silver Lake donned gloves and dust masks to clean up graffiti, litter, and overgrown median strips throughout Silver Lake. After a few hours of sweeping, weeding and bagging of debris, the neighborhood took on a new shine and participants, once again, helped make our neighborhood a better place to live.

We owe special thanks to Councilmember Jackie Golberg's office, and in particular, to Sonia Jimenez for doing an advanced mailing about the event, arranging for tools, bags, and water for the day, and for arranging for the Hollywood Beautification Team to paint out graffiti and take away the debris at the end of the day.

The day was made a success also by help from parents, students, and teachers at Micheltorena Street School and the community service students and teacher Steve Zimmer from Marshall High.



A special "Thanks" to all the Silver Lake residents who acted as team captains and all those folks who came out to help. We welcome volunteers and

encourage you to leave a message on the SLRA Hotline at (213)661-6465 if you can help next time.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SCOUT OUT GRAFFITI & LITTER SITES

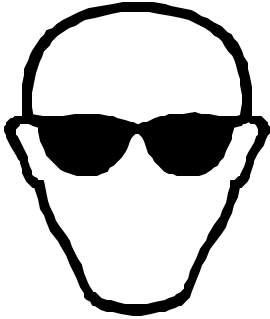
*by Nancy Smith*

Are you someone who is out and about in Silver Lake on a regular basis? Do you notice graffiti, litter, and abandoned items along the curbs? If so, the SLRA and your community need you. SLRA is currently seeking a resident to report graffiti and large litter sites to the Hollywood Beautification Team for paint out or pick up on a weekly or as-needed basis. Once a week, this person will be responsible for reporting, via fax or phone, street addresses/cross streets to HBT for scheduling for the next week. If you can make this commitment, please call the SLRA Hotline at (213)661-6465 and leave your name and number and someone will respond. Regular reporting of these nuisances to HBT will help keep the neighborhood clean and safe.

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## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS GUY?

*by Sandra Gold*



Well, he may start lurking around your street in a big way without Protection One patrolling your neighborhood. The drop in enrollment to the patrol service continues at the rate of about 10 per month. If this continues, we will lose our 24-hr dedicated car in less than one year! DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN! If you are not a member, please consider joining. If you are a member, urge your neighbors to sign up also. The fee is \$25/month and you do not need an alarm system.

It is true that crime is down in our neighborhood, but this is just when people become too complacent. Crime has dropped through the efforts of the LAPD and the visual presence of the Protection One patrol car. Crime is not on the decrease because the criminals decided to kick the life of a hoodlum and get a job.

The following are incidents that the Protection One patrol responded to during the month of June. I am quoting directly from their Activity report.

*On 6/1/97 at 1700 hours the officer observed a suspicious man taking recyclables in the 2400 block of Moreno Drive. The officer approached the man and told him to put the items back and leave the area. The man complied.*

*On 6/12/97 at 2057 hours the officer was dispatched to a call in the 1700 block of N. Dillon Street. Upon arrival the officer did a perimeter check and found a window broken and a patio door open. The officer called for backup and also to notify LAPD. LAPD arrived and an interior check of the house was done...The alarm system had activated which may have scared the intruder off.*

*On 6/16/97 at 1528 hours the officer observed a blue Toyota...driving around very slowly in the 1700 block of Redesdale Ave. The officer turned around to follow the vehicle when the driver noticed the officer, then fled the area at a high rate of speed.*

*On 6/21/97 at 2046 hours the officer was dispatched to a call in the 2300 block of Cove Ave. from a client stating that there was someone laying on the curb in front of the house. Upon arrival the officer searched for the subject and found him at a house, ringing the doorbell. The officer called for backup and when they arrived approached the man asking what he was doing. The man was intoxicated, so the officers called for LAPD and detained the suspect until they arrived. LAPD arrested the man for public intoxication.*

*On 6/28/97 at 0315 hours the officer observed three suspicious men looking into car windows in the 2500 block of Silver Lake Blvd. When the officer used the spotlight on them, they fled the area.*

This is a sample of the types of incidents the patrol handles each month. In addition, when a suspicious car is observed, the license number is communicated to the LAPD so they can investigate further.

Please SUPPORT OUR PATROL! If you have comments or suggestions, you may E-Mail them to me at [segold@concentric.net](mailto:segold@concentric.net), Fax to me at 660-1534 or leave a message on the SLRA Hotline at 661-6465.

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## SILVER LAKE COMMUNITY/LAPD OUTPOST

*by Maryann Kuk*

If you've driven by the Outpost location at 2825 Sunset Blvd. lately, you might have noticed that the Outpost has moved to an upstairs location. The new owner of the building, John Manoukian, is preparing the former location for a paying tenant and has generously offered to continue to provide space at no charge (except utilities) to the community. The Outpost has been open since November, 1995 and has had a profound influence reducing crime in that section of Sunset Blvd. It also has provided both Northeast and Rampart officers an opportunity to work together on mutual crime issues that had previously been shifted from one side of Sunset to the other. The Outpost currently is used by both Rampart and Northeast LAPD Officers, both undercover and uniformed. Neighborhood residents and merchants feel comfortable dropping by to file a police report or to find out information on how to deal with neighborhood problems. Northeast SLO George Caulford and Rampart SLO Bob VonVoigt have been conducting Sunset Business Watch meetings monthly to discuss problems faced by small business owners on Sunset Blvd.

Officer Bruce deLong is on duty Monday through Friday from 11 am - 2 pm. If you have an interest in volunteering some time to assist the LAPD with staffing the Outpost, call Officer deLong at (213)485-1117. He will be happy to talk to you about requirements and duties.

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### **OLD-FASHIONED FUN ! SLRA & CSSLR TO HOST BLOCK PARTY**

After the last community cleanup, one of our members made the comment that "We never do anything fun." After thinking about it, we realized that she was right. All of our recent community activities have dealt with crime, traffic, candidates' forums, and neighborhood cleanups. We felt that a good, old-fashioned block party would be a good way for many of the Silver Lake old-timers to meet the newcomers.

Please join us on Sunday, September 7th from 3:00-7:00 pm on Kenilworth Ave. between Hawick and Moreno and help celebrate our special community spirit. Meet more of your great neighbors and find out what is happening in the neighborhood. Have some fun and make a fool of yourself with games like the Adult/Kid's Hula Hoop contest! Representatives of the LAPD, LAFD, CERT and Protection One will be present for you to get to know and ask questions of.

Bring a dish or food item to share with at least 10 people (with a serving utensil) and things to Barbecue (charcoal grills provided). Be sure to mark your bowls and utensils with your name. Plates, cups, and utensils will be provided. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, chicken and sodas will be available for purchase. Wear your community spirit by purchasing a Silver Lake T-shirt (see article on page 2)!

All proceeds benefit the Master Plan effort for the Silver Lake Reservoir  
**NO PETS PLEASE**

**DO YOU EVER WONDER HOW  
SLRA SPENDS YOUR DUES?**

**A Report from our Treasurer**

Terry Jackson, treasurer of SLRA, has provided the following SLRA 1997 Year-to-Date Revenue and Expense and Fund Balance.

<b>Revenues</b>	
Dues	2,071
Fundraisers	440
Cash deposits 1/97 - 6/17/97	2,511
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Postage	941
Printing	1,354
Copying	74
Supplies	145
Phone	384
Meeting room	110
Permits	68
SLCC Rider benefit	140
	3,217
YTD deficit	(706)
Cash at beginning of year	7,307
Cash at 6/17/97	6,601

**SLRA Requests Fax Numbers  
and Email Addresses**

*by Maryann Kuk*

The SLRA has the ability to (nearly automatically) send out a fax to those of you with dedicated fax lines. If you would like your fax number added to this growing (currently 88) list to receive announcements with short notice, or important community news, please phone **the SLRA Hotline (661-6465)** with your fax number. Email addresses are equally useful for distributing important news about community issues and events. If you have an email address, and would like to receive informa-

**NEW RECREATION CENTER  
CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN**

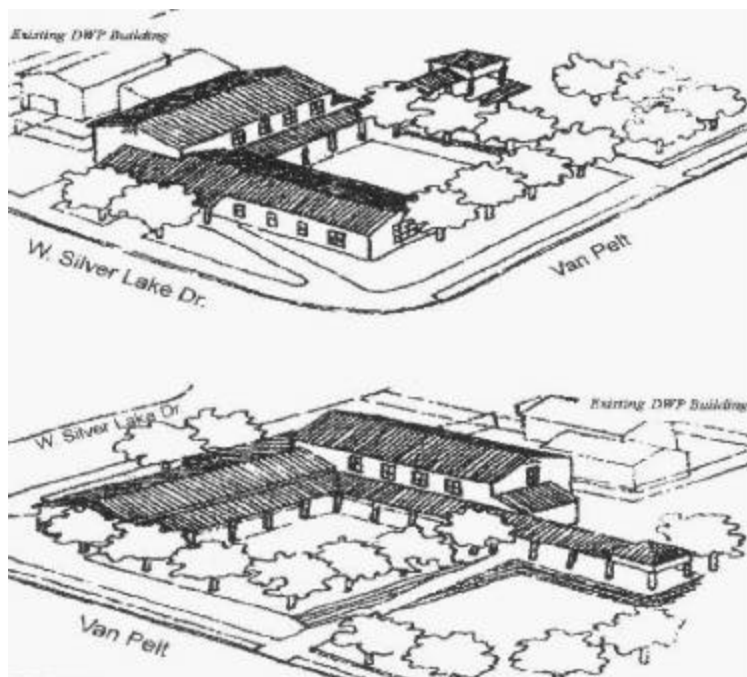
*by Jan SooHoo*

*Product of collaborative community effort will take about one year to complete. Two attempts to overturn zoning variance fail.*

Who hasn't noticed the new landscaping, fencing, and other infrastructure improvements at Silver Lake Park? The first phase of upgrading our local facility was completed in late spring, and the improved facilities have been in full use for several months now. At long last, the second phase of improvements at Silver Lake Park — construction of the new Recreation Center/Community Building — is about to be set into motion.

The Department of Recreation and Parks will take its choice for a construction contractor to the Department of Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners for their anticipated approval on Sept. 3. According to Ralph Lew of the planning group at Recreation and Parks, actual demolition of the existing 66 year-old facility and then construction of the new facility will begin 45-60 days after the Board's approval of the contractor — about the end of October. Completion should take about a year.

The project was delayed by approximately 6 months when about 10 citizens filed an appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals asking them to overturn the parking variance granted to Recreation and Parks. Following a hearing at which the variance was upheld, they then utilized their last opportunity to postpone or derail the project by filing yet another appeal. The



## COMPARISON OF FEATURES

### Current Building

### New Building

#### Staff Office

Office is too small; file cabinets overflow into meeting room; positioning of office, combined with no windows, *give staff no view of park, limiting their ability to monitor park.*

Slightly larger to accommodate staff needs; positioning of office and large window permit staff to *monitor indoor and outdoor activities.*

#### Bathrooms

Located on N. side of building *away from sight of staff office, playgrounds, and most of park.* Men's room accessible only from outdoors. Only interior access to women's room is through meeting room. Drainage problems result in *runoff through playground, posing potential health risk.*

Located on E. side of building; *entrance visible from office, playgrounds and most of park.* Accessible from interior and exterior. Interior access is from a hall — not through another room. *Drainage problems corrected, eliminating runoff*

#### Meeting Room

Small with no cabinetry or fixtures; barely accommodates ten people at a table comfortably. Accessible from outside, staff office or gym. Shares wall and doorway with gym and office making it *extremely noisy when activities or classes are being held in the gym.*

Larger with cabinets and deep craft sink. Accessible from hall. Positioned away from multipurpose room/gym. This will make it *more usable when events are being held in the multipurpose room/gym.*

#### Multipurpose Room/Gym

Positioning of gym *minimizes distance from adjacent homes.* Lack of sideline space for parents to watch games but more importantly, this leaves *no safety buffer* to prevent children from crashing into walls when they go out of bounds. *Lack of air conditioning necessitates open windows and doors, spreading unwelcome noise to neighbors.*

Slightly larger; repositioned to move it *as far away as possible from surrounding homes.* Additional *sideline space increases safety, comfort and enjoyment while participating in/watching activities.* *Air conditioning and soundproofing will mitigate noise.*

#### Access to Rooms

Interior access to meeting room, kitchen, and staff office is through gym. *All rooms share walls with the gym, limiting use of building when gym is in use due to noise.*

*All rooms have independent interior access.* No need to go through a basketball game, ballet or *rest martial arts class* to get need to go to another room. *All rooms usable simultaneously.*

#### Kitchen

Kitchen is of adequate size, but *poorly equipped with outdated fixtures.* Accessible from gym and meeting room only. *Limits use for other events when gym is occupied.*

*Modern kitchen* will be of approximately same size. Will be accessible from both hall and gym, *making it possible to serve events in gym and also meeting room or outdoors.*

Zoning Board cleared the way for the Dept. of Recreation and Parks to proceed. In the ensuing months, bids have been received and a contractor has finally been chosen.

The construction of the new Recreation Center and Community Building represents the culmination of a long and divisive struggle between the majority of the Silver Lake Community and a handful of vocal dissidents to replace the current facility with a more functional and attractive building of very similar size. The future of the Recreation Center has been at issue in Silver Lake since 1991, and the often heated debate ultimately resulted in an innovative design review process involving community members, Councilmember Goldberg's office and the Dept.

of Recreation and Parks. The building finally approved by the community is shown in the drawings on the previous page. This design was submitted by Silver Lake architect Christian Dufay after working with the community on a *pro bono* basis.

The Silver Lake Residents Association will continue to keep its membership updated on the progress of this project. Additional background and chronology on the Recreation Center project was printed in the SLRA Newsletters from March, 1995, September, 1996 and April, 1996. Copies are available by calling the SLRA Hotline at (213) 661-6465.



## Community Calendar



**Old-fashioned Block Party** sponsored by the **Silver Lake Residents Association** and the **Committee to Save Silver Lake's Reservoirs** will be held on **Sunday, September 7 from 3 - 7 pm on Kenilworth Avenue between Moreno and Hawick**. For more information, see article on page 5 and be sure to post the enclosed flyer so you won't miss out on the fun!

**Sunset Business Watch**, a group of business owners whose businesses are located along Sunset Blvd, will hold a **meeting Wed. Sept 10 at Reiyukai American Association, 2741 Sunset Blvd at 6:00 pm**. Business Watch meetings are held on the 2nd Wed of each month at 6:00 pm to deal with crime and other related issues. For further information, contact Silver Lake's Northeast Senior Lead Officer George Caulford at (213)485-4079 or Silver Lake's Rampart Senior Lead Officer Bob Von Voigt at (213)237-0875.

**Silver Lake Chamber of Commerce will meet on Thurs. Sept. 11 at 5:30 pm**. The chamber meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm. **The location is yet to be arranged**, but you can get **more information from Dr. Cheryl Revkin at (213)665-1281**.

**Silver Lake Improvement Association Annual Community Pot Luck Picnic** will be held on **Sunday, September 28 from 12:00 noon - 3:00 pm** at the **Reiyukai American Association, 2741 Sunset Blvd**. There will be entertainment and fun for the whole family. A raffle for the Gateway to Silver Lake project will be held. For further information contact Vincent Brooke at (213) 666-6715.

**Saturday, October 25 Arts & Crafts Fair**. Proceeds to provide children's programs for the **Chevy Chase Recreation Center**. This event will be held from **11-4 at the Recreation Center at 4165 Chevy Chase Dr in**

**SLRA Newsletter**

**Silver Lake Residents Association  
PO Box 39587  
Los Angeles, CA 90039**

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